

The Week Ahead

Sat / December 9

4pm - Vigil Mass: *Marty Barrack - SI* by *M Barrack*
Monthly Maintenance Fund Collection
5pm - Parish Christmas Party

Sun / December 10 - Second Sunday of Advent

9am - Mass: *Joseph Wilson - SI* by *R & S VanderZyl*
Monthly Maintenance Fund Collection
Coffee & Donuts after Mass, in the Parish Hall

Mon / December 11 - St. Damasus I, Pope

9am - Mass: *Albert & Joanna Bradi †* by *Family*

Tue / December 12 - Our Lady of Guadalupe

12Noon - Altar Society Christmas Luncheon, at the Artisan

Wed / December 13 - St. Lucy

6pm - Mass: *Gail Demarest - SI* by *MVB*
6:30pm - Penance Service, with individual Confessions
6:30pm - RCIA Classes, meet in Library
6:30pm - CCD

Thu / December 14 - St. John of the Cross

9am - Mass: *Gregory Curry - SI* by *M & M Winston*
12Noon - Parish Council Meeting, postponed from last week
6pm - *B--I--N--G--O*

Fri / December 15

9am - Mass: *Cecilia Orosz - SI* by *B. Dilorio*

Sat / December 16

3-3:45pm - Confessions
4pm - Vigil Mass: *Lynne Colles - SI* by *Edmonds Family*
Retirement Fund for Religious Collection

Sun / December 17 - 3rd Sunday of Advent

9am - Mass: People of the Parish
Retirement Fund for Religious Collection
Coffee & Donuts after Mass, in the Parish Hall
10:30am - CCD
2:30pm - Mass (L): *Harold Plunkett - †* by *M & M Winston*
4pm - Potluck to follow Mass, everyone invited

Altar Flowers this week are compliments of:

•Mike/Rhonda Bystry in memory of Jill Thompson †

Tabernacle Roses this week are compliments of:

•Mike/Rhonda Bystry in memory of Jill Thompson †
and Vena Wells †

Coffee & Donuts next week, December 17th, will be served by Ariela Wege & group # 5.

Advent Penance Service

This Wednesday, Dec. 13th, we will have a Penance Service. Father will begin with 6pm Mass; individual Confessions will follow. One other priest will be here to help him. Fr. Amal wishes to remind everyone, the faithful are encouraged to go to Confession prior to Christmas and Easter each year. Please consider joining us.

Below is the schedule of Confessions for some of our nearby parishes:

Dec. 19th: St. Mary's, Batesville - 6:30pm

Dec. 20th: St. Paul's, Pocahontas - 6pm

Birthdays Next Week:

12-Johnny Heuser
13-Gerald Catton, Gail Demarest
14-Rita Predergast
15-Briana DiIorio, Mary McPherson
16-Mary Wargo
17-Dean Graves

We wish you many blessings on your birthday!

Altar Society Christmas Luncheon

To all members in our Altar Society ~ we will be meeting for a Christmas Luncheon on Tuesday, Dec. 12th, at 12 Noon, at the Artisan Restaurant. Since we voted on meetings being just every other month, this will be a Christmas Luncheon only. (Our next regular meeting will be Tuesday, Jan. 9th.) Hope to see many of you there!

Next Weekend's Second Collection

Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests, for many years, have served in Catholic schools, hospitals, and parishes—often for little to no pay. Now there is a shortage in retirement savings. Your gift to the *Retirement Fund for Religious* provides funding for their medications, nursing care, and more. Please give generously to those who have given a lifetime.

BLESSED ADVENT

**Advent increases our Hope,
a Hope which does not
disappoint.**

**The Lord never lets us down.
~ Pope Francis**

☺ Wishing you a happy week! ☺

THANK YOU

from ST. VINCENT dePAUL SOCIETY

We thank you for your continued generosity to the work of the St. Vincent DePaul Society! Last weekend's quarterly collection will provide us with the means to continue to help the destitute in our area with basics - especially heat, food and medicine. Your generous response to the "Christmas Blessings" program enabled us to let 14 households know of our parish's love and concern. In addition to the monetary help 308 items were collected this month for the food pantry. Thank you for all your generous and consistent help in continuing this mission of serving the needy in our area. May our Savior Jesus Christ bless each of you in this holy season and in the coming year.

Open Adoration Hours

Tue: 5-6pm / Weds: 4-5:30pm / Fri: 3-4pm

Would you like to spend an hour with Our Lord each week? Or substitute for an open Adoration hour once in a while?

Please contact Anne Kootz, 870-847-1985; or Martha DeCoster, 870-955-8349; or Bernie Brandenburg, 870-994-2744.

Training Session Planned for EMHCs

There will be another training session for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, for both at Mass and to the Sick, on Wednesday, January 10th, following the 6pm Mass. Please pray about volunteering for this important ministry in our parish. Some who have served are no longer able. Thank you for your prayerful consideration.

New Office Hours:

Mon - Fri: 9:30am - 12Noon

The Church Office will now be open for business from 9:30-12noon, at which time the front doors will be locked. If you are unable to come during regular hours, please call the Church Office and make prior arrangements. We ask that you not ring the door bell and disturb the person in the Chapel who has come to pray. Thank You!

Free Tickets Available

"Caroling in the Caverns"

Parishioners who bought tickets for the Caroling at the Caverns in Blanchard Springs (Dec. 17th - 3:30pm) are unable to attend and would like to give away their tickets. Seeing car-pooling has already been arranged, you would need to drive yourselves. Please call the Church Office if you are interested.

CHILDREN WANTED!

We extend an invitation to all children and grandchildren of parishioners that would like to participate in the 4pm Vigil Mass for Christmas (Sunday eve). The children will be acting out the Gospel during Mass. All interested children are asked to arrive 30 minutes early and meet downstairs to get dressed in their costumes prior to Mass. If you have any questions, call Rose Brandenburg, 994-2744.

Worldside Marriage Encounter

CHRISTMAS GIFT FOR MARRIED COUPLES

Couples..... want to give each other something really special this Christmas? How about a gift filled with Romance and Excitement? That's just the beginning of what you will receive on a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend is in Subiaco, February 9-11. Space is limited. Apply online at www.arkansaswwme.org/apply. For more information call Ben & Leah Brewer at 501-733-1235 or email apply@arkansaswwme.org.

Please see the enclosed bulletin insert, "SVDP's Annual Report". Without your financial and prayerful support, none of this would be possible. May God bless you!

New Year's Eve

BINGO & Potluck Dinner

Come join us for a night of fun ~ Door Prizes

Please bring a dish to share

Doors open - 5pm / Dinner - 5:30pm

BINGO approx. 7:15-10:30pm

For more info call Izzy, 994-2243 ;

or Ed, 257-2375

(NO BINGO Thursday, Dec. 28th)